









16. (Original) The hair braider of claim 15, wherein a channel is formed between the split fingers, one end of the channel forming an entrance to an opening that is configured to receive the bundle of hair.

17. (Original) The hair braider of claim 13, wherein the elongated tube member includes a flat formed therealong from one end of the first end to the second end thereof.

18. (Original) The hair braider of claim 16, wherein during operation thereof, one bundle of hair is fed first through the channel in the threader head into the bore of the threader head and then out through the first cut-out and along an outer surface of the elongated tube member to the split finger construction where the hair is fed between the split finger into the second cut out and then up along the outer surface of the elongated tube member.

19. (Original) The hair braider of claim 1, wherein each of the first and second rotors is formed of two parts that releasably engage one another, a first part being formed of three concentric discs stacked on top of one another and a second part being formed of a disc, the first and second parts being spaced apart from one another by a spacer, the first and second parts having notches formed therein that are aligned with one another to form the openings formed in the respective rotor.



26. (Original) The hair braider of claim 1, wherein the first rotor includes three openings in the form of notches formed in an outer edge thereof and the second rotor includes three openings in the form of notches formed in an outer edge thereof.

27. (Original) The hair braider of claim 26, wherein the first and second rotors at least partially overlap with one another so that during operation one notch of one rotor comes into registration with one notch of the other rotor in a center transfer position.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) The hair braider of claim ~~[[28]]~~ 1, wherein the plurality of gears associated with the transfer mechanism include a pair of outer gears and a pair of inner gears, one outer gear being intermeshed with the first rotor and the other outer gear being intermeshed with the second rotor, the inner gears being intermeshed with the outer gears.

30. (Original) The hair braider of claim 29, wherein each of the outer gears includes a first toothed gear body that intermeshes with teeth of the first rotor and a second toothed gear body formed on the top face of the first toothed gear body, the second toothed gear body being intermeshed with teeth of the adjacent inner gear.







position and further operation of the hair braider results in central and right hair bundles swapping positions and then the central and left hair bundles swapping positions.

38. (Currently Amended) A hair braider configured to perform a three-bundle plait or braid comprising:

a body having a handle and a head portion at one end of the handle;

a selectively actuatable drive source disposed within the body;

first and second rotatable rotors that are disposed within the head portion and are accessible through openings formed in the head portion, the first and second rotatable rotors being operatively coupled to the drive source through a plurality of gears such that the first and second rotors rotate in opposite directions when the drive source is actuated, wherein the first and second rotatable rotors are at least partially overlapped and rotate simultaneously;

a plurality of hair retaining members that are received within openings formed in the first and second rotors and act to carry one bundle of hair, the first and second rotors at least partially overlap such that in a transfer location, one opening of one rotor overlaps one opening in the other rotor,

a mechanism for automatically continuously transferring one hair retaining members from one rotor to the other rotor whenever the one hair retaining member is disposed in the transfer location as the rotors rotate simultaneously; and

wherein a first bundle of hair is disposed in a hair retaining member and through one opening in the first rotor; a second bundle of hair is disposed in another hair retaining member and through another opening in the first rotor and a third bundle of hair is disposed in another hair





disposing a first bundle of hair in a hair retaining member and through one opening in the first rotor; a second bundle of hair in another hair retaining member and through another opening in the first rotor and a third bundle of hair in another hair retaining member and through one opening in the second rotor such that in a left-to-right order of the hair bundles there is a left hair bundle, a central hair bundle and a right hair bundle, wherein in the initial position, the first hair bundle is the left hair bundle, the second hair bundle is the central hair bundle and the third hair bundle is the right hair bundle, wherein the central hair bundle is always disposed in the transfer location; and

simultaneously rotating the first and second rotors in opposite directions with the three hair bundles being carried in respective circular orbits such that a number of successive hair bundle swaps are preformed as a result of the rotation of the rotors and action of the mechanism with the swaps being defined by successive swaps of the central hair bundle and one of the left and right hair bundles and then the central hair bundle with the other of the left and right hair bundles, thereby resulting in a three-bundle braid being formed.